

Public Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment on a draft permit from the Department of Environmental Quality that will allow the filling of wetlands and stream in Blackstone, Nottoway County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: For 30 days, starting from the day after the notice is in the newspaper.

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by DEQ, under the authority of the State Water Control Board

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: US General Services Administration; 20 N. 8th St. Philadelphia, PA 19107; Permit Number: 15-1145

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: US General Services Administration has applied for a permit for the Foreign Affairs Security Training Center (FASTC) at Ft. Pickett, in Blackstone, Virginia. The permit will allow the applicant to fill wetlands and streams. The proposed activity would permanently affect 3.84 acres of wetlands and 2859 linear feet of stream and temporarily impact 0.03 acres of wetlands. The activity proposed in the permit will affect Birch Creek, Hurricane Branch and their tributaries, in the Nottoway River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. To compensate for the affected area, the applicant will purchase wetland and stream credits. DEQ's preliminary decision is to approve the permit.

HOW TO COMMENT AND/OR REQUEST A PUBLIC HEARING: DEQ accepts comments and requests for public hearing by e-mail, fax or postal mail. All comments and requests must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period. Submittals must include the names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the commenter/requester and of all persons represented by the commenter/requester. A request for public hearing must also include: 1) The reason why a public hearing is requested. 2) A brief, informal statement regarding the nature and extent of the interest of the requester or of those represented by the requestor, including how and to what extent such interest would be directly and adversely affected by the permit. 3) Specific references, where possible, to terms and conditions of the permit with suggested revisions. DEQ may hold a public hearing, including another comment period, if public response is significant and there are substantial, disputed issues relevant to the permit.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Mark F. Bushing; Blue Ridge Regional Office; 7705 Timberlake Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502; Phone: 434-582-6240; E-mail: mark.bushing@deq.virginia.gov; Fax: 434-582-5125. The public may review the draft permit and application at the DEQ office named above by appointment.